

**THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:**

1. A system for delivering a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said system comprising;

10 A) a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices including a machine-readable delivery notice code thereon, each of said delivery notice codes being unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

B) a code-reading device configured to read said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices as well as to read said machine-readable  
15 item code from each of said plurality of items, such that a delivery notice code is read and a plurality of item codes are read; and

C) a code storing device, said device configured to store said delivery notice code and said plurality of item codes.

20 2. A system for delivering a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said system comprising;

A) a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices including a machine-readable delivery notice code thereon, each of said delivery notice codes being  
25 unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

B) a code-reading device configured to read said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices as well as to read said machine-readable item code from each of said plurality of items, such that a delivery notice code is read and a plurality of item codes are read; and

30 C) a code storing and linking device, said device configured to store said delivery notice code and said plurality of item codes and also configured to provide a link between said delivery notice code and said plurality of item codes.

5           3.       A system for delivering a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said system comprising;

          A) a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices including a machine-readable delivery notice code thereon, each of said delivery notice codes being  
10       unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

          B) a code-reading and storing device configured to read said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices, configured to read said machine-readable item code from each of said plurality of items, and configured to store said delivery notice code and said plurality of item codes; and

15       C) a storing and serving device configured to receive information relating to said delivery notice code and said plurality of item codes from said code-reading and storing device, said storing and serving device also configured to provide information upon request relating to said plurality of unique items upon the receipt of information relating to said delivery notice.

20

          4. The system as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said storing and service device is configured to receive and provide said information via an internet connection.

5           5.       A system for delivering a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said system comprising;

          A) a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices including a machine-readable delivery notice code thereon, each of said delivery notice codes being  
10       unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

          B) a code-reading and storing device configured to read said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices, configured to read said machine-readable item code from each of said plurality of items, and configured to store said delivery notice code and said plurality of item codes; and

15       C) a storing linking and serving device configured to receive information relating to said delivery notice code and said plurality of item codes from said code-reading and storing device, said storing linking and serving device also configured to link said delivery notice code relative to said plurality of item codes to allow it to provide information upon request relating to said plurality of unique items upon the receipt of  
20       information relating to said delivery notice.

          6. The system as claimed in Claim 5, wherein said storing and service device is configured to receive and provide said information via an internet connection.

25

5           7.     A system for delivering a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said system comprising;

          A) a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices including a machine-readable delivery notice code thereon, each of said delivery notice codes being  
10   unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

          B) a code-reading device configured to read said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices, and also configured to read said machine-readable item code from each of said plurality of items;

          C) a code-storing device configured to store said delivery notice code and said  
15   plurality of item codes; and

          D) a linking device configured to link said one of said delivery notices relative to said plurality of items.

          8. The system as claimed in Claim 7, further comprising:

20           E) a reporting device for reporting information regarding each of said plurality of unique items in response to receipt of a description of said one of said delivery notices.

5           9.       A system for delivering a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said system comprising;

          A) a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices including a first machine-readable delivery notice code and a second human-readable notice code thereon,  
10   each of said delivery notice codes being unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

          B) a code-reading device configured to read said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices, and also configured to read said machine-readable item code from each of said plurality of items;

          C) a code-storing device configured to store said delivery notice code and said  
15   plurality of item codes; and

          D) a linking device configured to link said delivery notice relative to said plurality of items; and

          E) a reporting device configured to report information regarding each of said plurality of unique items in response to receipt of said second human-readable notice  
20   code.

          10. The system as claimed in Claim 9, wherein said reporting device comprises a computer server configured to store data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices, and also configured to store data associated  
25   with said machine-readable item code.

          11. The system as claimed in Claim 9, wherein said reading in step “B” is done by scanning.

30           12. The system as claimed in Claim 9, wherein said linking in step “D” is done electronically.

5           13.     A method for delivering a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said method including the steps of:

          A) providing a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices including a machine-readable delivery notice code thereon, each of said delivery notice  
10 codes being unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

          B) machine reading said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices and storing corresponding electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code;

          C) machine reading said machine-readable item code from each of said plurality  
15 of items, and storing electronic data associated with said plurality of items;

          D) electronically linking said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code with said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code.

20

5           14.     A method for delivering a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said method including the steps of:

          A) providing a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices including a machine-readable delivery notice code thereon, each of said delivery notice  
10 codes being unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

          B) machine reading said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices and storing corresponding electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code;

          C) machine reading said machine-readable item code from each of said plurality  
15 of items, and storing electronic data associated with said plurality of items;

          D) electronically linking said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code with said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code; and

          E) reporting information regarding each of said plurality of unique items in  
20 response to receipt of a description of said one of said delivery notices.

          15. The method of Claim 14, wherein in step “E”, said receipt of a description of said one of said delivery notices is accomplished at least in part by use of the internet, and wherein said reporting of said information regarding each of said plurality of unique  
25 items is accomplished at least in part by use of the internet.

5           16. A method for delivering a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said method including the steps of:

          A) providing a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices including a machine-readable first delivery notice code and a human-readable second  
10 delivery notice code thereon, each of said first delivery notice codes being unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

          B) machine reading said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices and storing corresponding electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code;

15           C) machine reading said machine-readable item code from each of said plurality of items, and storing electronic data associated with said plurality of items;

          D) electronically linking said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code with said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code; and

20           E) reporting information regarding each of said plurality of unique items in response to receipt of said human-readable second delivery notice code.

          17. The method of Claim 16, wherein in step “E”, said receipt of said human-readable second delivery notice code is accomplished at least in part by use of the  
25 internet, and wherein said reporting of said information regarding each of said plurality of unique items is accomplished at least in part by use of the internet.

          18. The method of Claim 16, wherein in step “A”, said machine-readable first delivery notice code includes common data relative to said human-readable second  
30 delivery notice code.

          19. The method of Claim 16, wherein said human-readable indicia is an alphanumeric sequence.



5           20. A method for delivering a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said method including the use of a handheld data acquisition device and comprising the steps of:

          A) providing a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices  
10 including a machine-readable delivery notice code thereon, each of said delivery notice codes being unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

          B) machine reading said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices and storing corresponding electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code on said handheld data acquisition device;

15           C) machine reading said machine-readable item code from each of said plurality of items, and storing electronic data associated with said plurality of items on said handheld data acquisition device;

          D) electronically linking said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code with said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code; and  
20

          E) reporting information regarding each of said plurality of unique items in response to receipt of a description of said one of said delivery notices.

          21. The method of Claim 20, wherein in step “E”, said receipt of a description of  
25 said one of said delivery notices is accomplished at least in part by use of the internet, and wherein said reporting of said information regarding each of said plurality of unique items is accomplished at least in part by use of the internet.

          22. The method of Claim 22, wherein in step “D”, said linking is done on said  
30 handheld data acquisition device.

5           23. A method for delivering a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said method including the use of a handheld data acquisition device and a computer server and comprising the steps of:

          A) providing a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices  
10 including a machine-readable delivery notice code thereon, each of said delivery notice codes being unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

          B) machine reading said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices and storing corresponding electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code on said handheld data acquisition device;

15           C) machine reading said machine-readable item code from each of said plurality of items, and storing electronic data associated with said plurality of items on said handheld data acquisition device;

          D) transferring said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code from said handheld data acquisition device to said server as well as  
20 transferring said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code from said handheld data acquisition device to said server;

          E) electronically linking said electronic data on said server associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code with said electronic data on said server associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code; and

25           F) reporting information regarding each of said plurality of unique items in response to receipt of a description of said one of said delivery notices.

          24. The method of Claim 23, wherein in step “E”, said receipt of a description of said one of said delivery notices is accomplished at least in part by use of the internet,  
30 and wherein said reporting of said information regarding each of said plurality of unique items is accomplished at least in part by use of the internet.

5           25. A method for delivering a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said said method including the steps of:

          A) providing a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices including a machine-readable delivery notice code thereon, each of said delivery notice  
10 codes being unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

          B) attempting the delivery of said plurality of unique items at a designated address under a set of predetermined delivery rules;

          C) delivering said items if said delivery rules are met;

          D) proceeding to the following steps if said delivery rules are not met;

15           E) machine reading said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices and storing corresponding electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code;

          F) machine reading said machine-readable item code from each of said plurality of items, and storing electronic data associated with said plurality of items;

20           G) electronically linking said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code with said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code; and

          H) reporting information regarding each of said plurality of unique items in response to receipt of a description of said one of said delivery notices.

25

          26. The method of Claim 25, wherein in step “H”, said receipt of a description of said one of said delivery notices is accomplished at least in part by use of the internet, and wherein said reporting of said information regarding each of said plurality of unique items is accomplished at least in part by use of the internet.

30

          27. The method of Claim 26, wherein in step “H”, said receipt of a description of said one of said delivery notices is accomplished at least in part by use of a telephone connection, and wherein said reporting of said information regarding each of said

5 plurality of unique items is accomplished at least in part by use of a telephone connection.

28. A method for delivering, to an intended recipient, a plurality of unique items each having unique identities and each having a different machine-readable item code readable therefrom, said method including the steps of:

10 A) providing a plurality of delivery notices, each of said delivery notices including a machine-readable delivery notice code thereon, each of said delivery notice codes being unique within said plurality of delivery notices;

B) attempting the delivery of said plurality of unique items at a designated address of said intended recipient under a set of predetermined delivery rules;

15 C) delivering said items to said intended recipient if said delivery rules are met;

D) retaining said items and proceeding to the following steps if said delivery rules are not met;

E) machine reading said machine-readable delivery notice code from one of said delivery notices and storing corresponding electronic data associated with said machine-  
20 readable delivery notice code;

F) machine reading said machine-readable item code from each of said plurality of items, and storing electronic data associated with said plurality of items;

G) electronically linking said electronic data associated with said machine-readable delivery notice code with said electronic data associated with said machine-  
25 readable delivery notice code;

H) reporting information regarding each of said plurality of unique items in response to receipt of a description of said one of said delivery notices from said intended recipient; and

I) modifying delivery plans based upon subsequent instructions from said  
30 intended recipient.

29. The method of Claim 28, wherein in step "D", linking is provided on a computer server.

5           30. The method of Claim 28, wherein in step “D”, linking is first provided on a handheld device and then transferred to a computer server where said linking is again provided on said server.

10           31. The method of Claim 28, wherein in step “H”, said receipt of a description of said one of said delivery notices is accomplished at least in part by use of the internet, and wherein said reporting of said information regarding each of said plurality of unique items is accomplished at least in part by use of the internet.

15           32. The method of Claim 28, wherein in step “H”, said receipt of a description of said one of said delivery notices is accomplished at least in part by use of a telephone connection, and wherein said reporting of said information regarding each of said plurality of unique items is accomplished at least in part by use of a telephone connection.

20